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ABSTRACT

This handbook, intended for both beginning and experienced practitioners in the field of developmental education and learning assistance, integrates theory and research in order to construct a new model of practice, which focuses not only on students who need help with basic skills or are underprepared but also on high achievers or graduate students, and seeks to maximize individual potential. The book is divided into three sections. The first, "Examining the Foundations," reviews the history and evolving philosophies of learning assistance and developmental education at the college level and discusses five different learning theory approaches; a case study is included. Chapters in the second section, "Creating an Integrative Approach for Practice," examine fundamental principles and practices, including organizing and managing a program, assessing student needs, and training tutors. Examples are offered of four successful programs that represent different types of institutions and organizational frameworks. The final chapter in this section offers a model for practice emphasizing the interconnections among the four variables of theory, research, principles, and practice. The final section, "Shaping the Future," focuses on conducting research that advances practice, creating a guiding philosophy and professional identity, and preparing for the challenges to be faced in the future. (Contains approximately 155 references.) (CH)

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